

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 through 3 and 5 through 10 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please add Claims 11 through 20 as follows:

1 - 10. (Cancelled)

11. (New) A video combining method for superimposing a computer graphics image generated by a computer on a real world observed by a user, said method comprising the steps of:

a first extracting step of extracting a region having a particular color from the real world observed by the user;

a second extracting step of extracting a closed region within the region extracted by the first extracting step;

an inputting step of inputting position and orientation information of a view point of the user;

a generating step of generating a computer graphics image based on the position and orientation information;

a determining step of determining an image elimination region over which the computer graphics image is not to be superimposed, based on (a) the closed region and (b) the position and orientation information; and

a superimposing step of superimposing the computer graphics image on the real world observed by the user except for the image elimination region.

12. (New) The video combining method according to claim 11, wherein the first extracting step extracts as the region having the particular color a region corresponding to at least one hand of the user.

13. (New) A video combining apparatus for superimposing a computer graphics image generated by a computer on a real world observed by a user, said apparatus comprising:

first extracting means for extracting a region having a particular color from the real world observed by the user;

second extracting means for extracting a closed region within the region extracted by the first extracting means;

inputting means for inputting position and orientation information of a view point of the user;

generating means for generating a computer graphics image based on the position and orientation information;

determining means for determining an image elimination region over which the computer graphics image is not to be superimposed, based on (a) the closed region and (b) the position and orientation information; and

superimposing means for superimposing the computer graphics image on the real world observed by the user except for the image elimination region.

14. (New) The video combining apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the first extracting means extracts as the region having the particular color a region corresponding to at least one hand of the user.

15. (New) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to effect the method of claim 11.

16. (New) A video combining method for superimposing a computer graphics image generated by a computer on a video image of a real world observed by a user, said method comprising the steps of:

- a first extracting step of extracting a region having a particular color from the video image of the real world observed by the user;

- a second extracting step of extracting a closed region within the region extracted by the first extracting step;

- an inputting step of inputting position and orientation information of a view point of the user;

- a generating step of generating a computer graphics image based on the position and orientation information;

- a determining step of determining an image elimination region over which the computer graphics image is not to be superimposed, based on (a) the closed region and (b) the position and orientation information; and

- a superimposing step of superimposing the computer graphics image on the video image of the real world observed by the user except for the image elimination region.

17. (New) The video combining method according to claim 16, wherein the first extracting step extracts as the region having the particular color a region corresponding to at least one hand of the user.

18. (New) A video combining apparatus for superimposing a computer graphics image generated by a computer on a video image of a real world observed by a user, said apparatus comprising:

first extracting means for extracting a region having a particular color from the video image of the real world observed by the user;

second extracting means for extracting a closed region within the region extracted by the first extracting means;

inputting means for inputting position and orientation information of a view point of the user;

generating means for generating a computer graphics image based on the position and orientation information;

determining means for determining an image elimination region over which the computer graphics image is not to be superimposed, based on (a) the closed region and (b) the position and orientation information; and

superimposing means for superimposing the computer graphics image on the video image of the real world observed by the user except for the image elimination region.

19. (New) The video combining apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the first extracting means extracts as the region having the particular color a region corresponding to at least one hand of the user.

20. (New) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to effect the method of claim 16.